

Sailing **SHIP** in **DISTRESS**



Station Ship in the West supports sailing SHIP in DISTRESS

Zr.Ms. Van Amstel carries Belgian sailboat Mama Lucie to Aruba



ON July 18, the Zr. Ms. Amstel sailing 25 miles west from Aruba provided support to the sailboat called Mama Lucie at the request of the Caribbean Coast Guard. This sailing vessel, was located by the Coast Guard patrol aircraft Dash 8 after a distress call. It departed from St. Maarten a month ago. The two crew members were very tired and happy with the help received.

East Wind

Due to the persistent east wind Mama Lucie could not stay on track and suffered damage to the helm, lights and rigging. The sail broke and the boom broke off. The engine was not strong enough to fight the waves and get the boat to land.

At the moment that Zr.Ms. Amstel arrived to help Mama Lucie the boat had already been towed for three days by catamaran Nera. However, because of the weather and limited drag force it would still take more than a day before the two boats could arrive in Aruba. In addition, the Nera was damaged by dragging the Mama Lucie vessel. Zr.Ms. Amstel's help was therefore very welcome.

Plight

Zr. Ms. Van Amstel provided support by sending a French-speaking crew in a RHIB to the distressed ship. After the crew of the Mama Lucie was reassured and the situation was explained to them Nera loosened them and continued its way to Aruba. Subsequently, Zr. Ms. Van Amstel brought a towing line and dragged Mama Lucie to Aruba. The commander KLTZ Dick van der Neut said: "I'm glad we took the two crew members of the Mama Lucie out of their plight and that we were able to help thus giving substance to the Search and Rescue task of the Caribbean station ship."

GREAT CONTRIBUTION from the Colombian community

MINISTER of Social and Labor Affairs Paul Croes represented Cabinet Mike Eman II during the 205th celebration of the Colombian Independence Day yesterday. “Biba Colombia y Biba Aruba” (Live on Colombia and Live on Aruba) with these words Minister Croes initiated his speech at this important event. Minister Paul Croes emphasized the importance of this community in our development and our countries’ progress.

“Many have chosen Aruba as their second home, and contribute daily to our progress. That is what we celebrate today. We also celebrate the fact that 205 years ago brave men and women achieved the independence of the beautiful country known as Colombia.” Minister Croes said in his beautiful speech.

Minister Paul Croes was there on behalf of the Aruban Government and spend a pleasant time with the Colombian and Aruban community that attended this event. 205 years of Independence of a country that is so important to our island is definitely something the Aruban Government will take time to celebrate. The government will also continue trying their best to strengthen the bonds between these two countries.

On July 20, 1810, Colombian patriots stirred the population of Bogotá into street protests against Spanish rule. The Viceroy, under pressure, was forced to agree to allow for a limited independence which later became permanent. July 20 is celebrated in Colombia as Independence Day.





Aruba Tourism Authority ANALYZED OPPORTUNITIES for Aruba during the Digital Summit 2015

MEETINGS focusing on the digital market on Aruba were recently held. The Digital Summit was held at the Aruba Tourism Authority office in the United States and was focused on analyzing the rest of 2015 and plan for 2016.

The ATA digital team met with the European, American and Latin American representatives that focus on their digital means strategy, since this is currently a huge part of the effort to promote Aruba.

It was two very intense work days but it was productive for all parties involved.

Details about ongoing and planned projects were discussed and revised.

Decisions were made regarding projects that need to be completed this year and projects scheduled for 2016 and 2017 combined with decisions about resources and process that need to be implemented or introduced.

Another topic discussed was the official Aruba website which is aruba.com being introduced in more languages, the mobile Aruba Travel Guide app and strategies involving social media.

The Key Performance Indicators were established for projects planned for 2016 and the responsibilities of each partner involved in a project or process.

“The Digital Summit is an essential ingredient to Aruba’s total market

and our goals. The digital world and services it provides change daily so it is very important we remain on top of our game if we want to be successful and to keep in touch with our main markets while additional markets are being opened. The digital strategy for Aruba is one of ATA’s ways to create innovation.

Personal contact and word of mouth are very important aspects in Aruba’s labor market, some examples of these are: our website, marketing emails and social media.

This is complemented and fortified by stimulating the word of mouth.” According Ronella Tijn Asjoe-Croes,

CEO of Aruba Tourism Authority.

“The digital market offers a fast and efficient global expansion and creates new opportunities for us to attract visitors from all parts of the world every day. It is a known fact that the attention competition with other destinations from those searching for new destinations to visit via internet searches is very fierce.

That’s why it is so essential to use the available instruments, capitalize on them and use them as effective as possible to continue successfully competing in the markets that we want to develop and expand.” Ronella Tijn Asjoe-Croes concluded saying.

Buro Sostenemi Foundation will be supported



“THE importance of Buro Sostenemi Foundation for our children’s right management is crucial.” Minister Paul Croes announced.

After meeting with the Director of the Foundation Mrs. Teckelenborg, Minister Paul Croes decided to provide more support to this important foundation.

Buro Sostenemi has to become the central reporting centre for child abuse on Aruba. After many Parliament motions showing the necessity of having a central reporting centre for child abuse Minister Paul Croes made it a priority of his.

“We need to stimulate cooperation amongst all departments involved with handling child abuse cases. Departments, Foundations and Institutions need to work together and more efficiently on this subject.” Minister Paul Croes announced.

Buro Sostenemi was reassured that they will soon have more personnel to help them provide the necessary service. The amount of cases being handled at this moment is increasing so much that the department can’t handle them with the amount of personnel it currently has.

Minister Paul Croes also asked Buro Sostenemi to continue with the #stopawo (#stopnow) campaign. This campaign is focused on raising awareness on the consequences of child abuse.

Designer Gigliola Gomez-Arendsz visits Minister Boekhoudt



THE HAGUE – Aruban designer Gigliola Gomez-Arendsz paid a courtesy visit to Minister Plenipotentiary Alfonso Boekhoudt.

This was after her debut at the Mercedes Benz Fashion Week in Amsterdam. Also present at the meeting was European ATA Director Tirso Tromp, ATA PR Manager Sharmin de Vries and culture functionary Angelo Tromp.

During the visit Gigliola told them all about her experiences at the Amsterdam fashion week. She mentioned that her show captured the attention of some bloggers from England and Germany. These two bloggers interviewed her; this would probably give her more international exposure.

Gigliola presented her new collection named “Orkidia” at the Mercedes Benz Fashion Week. Gigliola’s presentation was part of the Caribbean Fashion Spot, where she participated with designers from Trinidad, Puerto Rico and Surinam.

Minister Plenipotentiary Alfonso Boekhoudt congratulated Gigliola on her beautiful presentation and thanked her for promoting Aruba.

Mr. Boekhoudt wished Gigliola lots of success in the future and mentioned how sure he was that the fashion world will see more of this talented Aruban Designer.

Women in **DIFFICULTY** Foundation will continue being supported by us

According to Minister Paul Croes



MINISTER of Social, Youth and Labor Affairs Mr. Paul Croes announced after meeting with directive of the Hende Muher den Difficultad Foundation, FHMD (Women in difficulty Foundation) that the government will continue supporting this important foundation. The support will be provided by funding and by filling some open positions in this foundation that are crucial to its operation. “We need to support women that are being abused. This is something that needs to be stopped, but as

long as it’s still going on we need a Centre to provide them with protection and guidance.” Minister Paul Croes said.

“We recently raised 15.000 florins already for this foundation through the Social Fair and will continue supporting it because it has a very important goal. We need to be able to help abuse victims.” Minister Croes said.

The foundation will have more personnel and will

be more prepared to help its clients thanks to the decisions made by the Ministers’ council.

Minister Paul Croes remarked that managing our countries finances is very important but this cannot go in cost of important social sector services.

“As Minister of Social Affairs it is my duty to show the Government, Private Facilities and NGO’s the social needs of our country. This is just one example of those social needs.” Minister Paul Croes concluded.

Dutch Caribbean LGBTI groups jointly call for **MARRIAGE EQUALITY**

THE main Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex (LGBTI) organizations of St. Maarten, Curaçao and Aruba have issued a joint declaration, calling for marriage rights to be viewed as necessary civil and human rights, and for them to be extended to the remainder of the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

The groups opened by jointly declaring “that the only acceptable end result of the struggles for the rights of committed LGBTI couples is the granting of full marriage rights to same-sex couples in each of the Caribbean countries within the Kingdom of the Netherlands.”

We urge lawmakers to consider the very notion of having their civil and legal rights removed or limited due to one aspect of their person, be it race, ethnicity or sexual orientation.

“What is being demanded is that access to the package of legal protections, rights and benefits included in civil

marriage be inclusive of all citizens, whether heterosexual or LGBTI.”

In drawing from international examples, the groups said that: “The emotion of marriage is something that remains intact within all of our societies; the notion of caring for another, protecting that individual and growing together in life is an ideal that any individual can appreciate.

The resolution was written “with the recognition that LGBTI rights are human rights, and that marriage equality falls within the scope of human and civil rights.” The groups point to the situation in the Netherlands and United States as “two countries that our people like to look up to where democracy and civil rights are concerned.”

Parliamentary member Desiree de Sousa Croes along with Maikel Kelly from ALFA supports this cause

ALFA Foundation is an organization that works towards the emancipation of the Aruban community regarding

same sex feelings. Seeing how a lot of countries are developing when it comes to same sex marriages ALFA Foundation along with organizations from Curacao and Sint Maarten issued a declaration for marriage equality in the Dutch Caribbean according to Maikel Kelly.

Same sex marriages have been legalized in the United States and The House of Representatives in Holland has discussed whether to pressure Aruba to also legalize same sex marriages.

Many of our same sex couples go to Bonaire to get married; this shows their desire to wed just like other couples. Bonaire gets more same sex couples from Aruba to wed than any other country.

Maikel Kelly member of ALFA remarked: “Why let our people spend so much money to go to Bonaire and wed, when they could just stay here and wed.” Getting married in Bonaire

and registering in Aruba shows that same sex couples want to wed, have their own family and home thus proving they want secure and long lasting relationships.

It seems like Aruba discriminates its own people and makes their happiness almost impossible to achieve. The organizations from Aruba, Bonaire and Sint Maarten made some interesting points about same sex marriages in their declaration. ALFA Foundation will be present at the Dutch Kingdom parade upcoming August 1 in Amsterdam to highlight the collaboration between the Kingdom countries when it comes to the sexually diverse community and their right to be treated equally.

ALFA and Desiree Croes will represent Aruba in this parade and will also be present at the discussion about why same sex marriages aren’t possible in Aruba seeing that Aruba is a very tolerant and modern country.



Aruba can start TECHNOLOGICAL INITIATIVES just like Communitech

According to Ian Klugman

ARUBAN Prime Minister met with representatives of numerous Canadian universities, institutions and companies. One particular meeting attended by Minister Eman was a meeting with Communitech, a company that supports and helps with the development of start-ups.

Communitech is located in the well known Waterloo region, known as CTT (Canada's Technology Triangle) similar to Silicon Valley in California.

The region consists of numerous International companies like Microsoft, MapleSoft, RIM (Research in Motion) and Sandvine (Networking).

Communitech is also part of this technical community and its directive consists of leaders dedicated to development of the technologic community in the Waterloo Region.

One of these leaders is Ian Klugman who expressed that it was a major opportunity to meet with the Aruban Prime Minister Mr. Mike Eman and to welcome the entire Aruban delegation in Ontario, Canada.

During the encounter, the CEO of Communitech got a chance to present the Aruban Minister with some of the programs and initiatives the Waterloo region has to offer. The Waterloo region focuses on how to help young ones become entrepreneurs and successfully start their own business.

The CEO expressed an interest in following up on projects that Aruba is working on, since Aruba is working towards making a difference.

This type of technological centre is something that Aruba can implement according to the CEO of Communitech. People can start a business in any part of the world as long as they have the talents and are willing to develop solutions to particular problems. Klugman listened to Prime Minister Mike Eman's thoughts on the sustainable energy subject and the goal Aruba has set to be completely independent of fossil fuel when it comes to energy production by 2020.

"I highly respect the communities' and his efforts to create a safe and sustainable economy. Klugman said. This creates more opportunities for our children; we need to create more opportunities for our children to travel and learn and to return to their country to start new businesses according to Klugman.

Communitech likes to work with a person that offers a win-win situation and that is exactly what Klugman observed from his meeting with the Aruba Prime Minister.

Minister Dowers visits "De Schie" PRISON

"DE SCHIE" prison in Rotterdam does not only have regular prisoners but also houses extremely dangerous prisoners that have a high escape risk.

This Facility is also used to incarcerate those convicted of terrorist attacks. Another facility that deals with these types of prisoners in Holland is "De Vught." The reason why visiting these facilities is so important is to get a better view of how Holland deals with the arrest and discharging process.

This is very important since our prison has been evaluated according to standards used in Holland and Europe. If we want to meet the CPT standards we need to adapt the standards implemented in Holland.

Minister Dowers visited different departments and conversed with those in charge of these institutions. They exchanged ideas on how to create new facilities in Aruba. The Minister also spoke about the cooperation between the Aruban Government and Dutch Government regarding the different facilities that support and help Aruba. The Dutch Government is very happy with the cooperation.

The next few days the Minister will meet with more Justice Departments and the Secretary of State in charge of Prisons in Holland.





Professor Boake from the Waterloo University is **IMPRESSED** with how **Aruba's MANAGEMENT** of **sustainable energy**

THE Dutch Embassy in Canada prepared and schedule containing all the important meetings in Toronto or in the neighborhood for Prime Minister of Aruba during his visit to one of the most populated cities in Canada.

Prime Minister Mike Eman was in Canada as a guest speaker at the Toronto Global Forum which was sponsored by The International Economic Forum of the Americas.

At the time of his visit the Pan American Games were about to kick off in the same City, which a lot of Aruban athletes were participating in.

Prime Minister visited the athletes before the games kicked off and tried to attend a few competitions.

Minister Eman was really busy during this trip. He had numerous meetings with different universities, companies and institutes that could support or help Aruba in our efforts to develop sustainable energy in Aruba.

Waterloo University is one of the Universities that are part of the CTT (Canada's Technology Triangle). Aruban Prime Minister met with a few professors from the prestigious University. Professor Terri Meyer Boake from the Architecture school gave a

presentation for the Prime Minister of a project that the University and he completed in 2009. The project relates to mineralizing the dependence on renewable energy to achieve a better, cleaner environment.

The Minister talked about how Aruba is trying to be less dependent on fossil fuel.

Aruba is constructing buildings that use the islands natural resources, by for example using natural ventilation thus creating an island more attractive for eco-tourists.

Professor Boake thinks that working with Aruba on the sustainable energy field would be a great idea, because the parties could advice each other on how to apply modern architectural designs more efficiently to maximize the sustainability goal.

"I am very impressed with the idea of achieving 100% sustainable energy by 2020. I wonder if Mr. Eman wants to campaign to become our Prime Minister, because the management of sustainable energy is definitely something that I would like to see Canada implement." According to Professor Boake.

The President of S2e Technologies Inc Mr. Carlos

Fernandez was also present at the meeting with Prime Minister Mike Eman.

His company dedicates itself to developing large scale solar panel projects but the company has a division exclusively dedicated to sustainable energy. There focus is on developing communities that only use locally produced energy, water and nourishment. So basically a project completely based on sustainability.

Aruba is an ideal partner because the island has a lot of favorable conditions according to Fernandez. E few examples of these conditions are the economic development, strategy, the islands' location and their relationship with the European Union.

Mr. Fernandez commended the Prime Minister on his vision for Aruba.

"It is incredible. You don't come across something like this every day, but the green energy economy revolution is a reality. That Aruba is already part of this is incredible, because it's a development that many big countries still haven't achieved." Mr. Fernandez said.

Mr. Fernandez remarked that his company will stay in touch with Aruba and that he is considering participating in the Green Expo upcoming October.





Daily service Aruba-Margarita:

Albatros Airlines adding **ADDITIONAL** SERVICE to and from Aruba



DURING a warm reception by representatives of Aruba Airport Authority N.V. (AAA) and Aruba Tourism Authority (ATA) the passengers arriving from Margarita on board the inaugural flight by Albatros Airlines were officially welcomed in AAA's VIP-Room.

Albatros Airlines started operations into Aruba in December of 2014. They operate three daily flights from Aruba to Las Piedras at 09:30, 14:30 and 16:30.

Their fleet used for the Aruba operations consists of a Cessna 208 (carrying 12 passengers) and an Embraer with a capacity to carry 30 passengers.

The same aircraft will be used for the daily flights to and from Margarita, Venezuela.

Mr. Orlando Padilla, Albatros Airline's Commercial Director was happy to announce that the airline has big plans for the near future. These plans include a new destination that will start soon: Barquisimeto. AAA Head Airline Marketing Ms. Jo-Anne Arends was

delighted to welcome the airline representatives and the Venezuelan Tour Operators who were invited to be on board the inaugural flight to Aruba and handed over a special token of appreciation in light of the newest route launched.

Aruba Airport encourages passengers to visit Albatros Airlines' new office situated at the airport and looks forward to welcoming more flights from new destinations in the near future.

U.S. Embassy in Cuba Reopens After More Than 50 Years

AFTER more than a half-century defined by mistrust and rancor, the United States officially reopened its six-story embassy in the Cuban capital on Monday, the culmination of many months of negotiations to overcome decades of historical enmity and to restore diplomatic relations between the two nations.

More than two years of effort went into restoring relations between Cuba and the United States, both public and private, yet most observers say they believe it will be many more years before mutual wariness fades.

The reopening of the embassy on the Malecón waterfront in Havana, previously used as an interests section, a limited diplomatic outpost, stands as the most concrete symbol yet of the thaw set in motion last year when President Obama ordered the full restoration of diplomatic ties between the countries.

The official celebration to inaugurate the American Embassy will not take place until later in the summer, when Secretary of State John Kerry plans to visit, to formally raise the flag and install the new signage.

For now, the change is imperceptible from the outside, arguably a metaphor for the state of Cuba itself. Technically, there will be differences. Diplomats will be formally registered, and, for the first time since the American Embassy was closed, they will be allowed to travel freely in the country. They will be invited to functions, too, like members of other diplomatic corps.

The American government is supposed to ease access for Cubans entering the embassy and for the American Foreign Service officers inside, a State Department official said.

Mr. Obama, when announcing an end to the diplomatic freeze, eased travel restric-

tions, opened the door for more remittances to Cuba, and expanded the amount of goods that visiting Americans could take home, like Cuban cigars and rum. In May, he removed the country from the list of nations that sponsor terrorism.

President Raúl Castro has spent the past five years, before the thaw began with the Obama administration, trying to jump-start the nation's economy, ordering that hundreds of thousands of government employees be laid off, encouraging into self-employment and entrepreneurship, and creating a special economic zone in the coastal city of Mariel to attract foreign investment.

Often, these initiatives have been ensnared by the mentality that has both preserved and ossified Cuban life, one forged through years of anti-American sentiment that has defined the social, political and economic lives of Cubans. Letting go of that is not easy.

Mr. Castro has said that change will be slow, and that it will not come at the cost of stability or values. Again and again, what emerges is this: Cuba will change, yes, but at its own pace and with no apologies.

For many Cubans, that is reason enough for hope.



FIFA: Sepp Blatter showered with fake money by British comedian



FIFA'S hopes of rebuilding its reputation were hijacked Monday by a British comedian who showered the president of football's world governing body with what appeared to be fake money.

As Blatter took to the stage at FIFA headquarters in Zurich, Switzerland, he was ambushed by Simon Brodtkin -- aka Lee Nelson -- who recently interrupted Kanye West's performance at the Glastonbury Festival.

Blatter was unharmed but looked nervous as the notes were thrown towards him. The Swiss later returned to answer questions regarding FIFA's latest plans to clean up its act.

Earlier in the day, FIFA had announced it will elect Blatter's successor on February 26, 2016.

The Swiss has led FIFA since 1998 but decided to stand down on June 2 as the game's world governing body battled two corruption scandals.

So far only two men -- former Brazil international Zico and Liberian FA president Musa Bility -- have announced their candidacy, but a wave of new names is expected now a timeline has been announced.

There is increasing speculation that Michel Platini may stand for the top job in world football.

The Frenchman, who was reelected UEFA president earlier this year, was asked by four of six confederations to consider standing following overnight talks in Switzerland. Platini has yet to decide whether he will stand for the post.

Platini's European governing body was understood to have been pushing for new elections on December 16 but this date would clash with FIFA's Club World Cup in Japan.

Led by Domenico Scala, the chairman of FIFA's Audit and Compliance Committee, FIFA is also discussing how to reform the way it is run.

The organization was plunged into crisis in late May when seven FIFA officials were charged for racketeering, wire fraud and money laundering by the FBI.

The charges are part of a U.S. prosecution that indicted a total of 14 people from around the globe.

Meanwhile, a separate probe by Swiss authorities is investigating potential corruption into the bidding process for both the 2018 and 2022 World Cups.



GREEK BANKS REOPEN AMID RESTRICTIONS

Greece closed its banks beginning June 29 to prevent a bank run

GREEKS woke up Monday morning to a new era: banks were finally open after being closed down for three weeks but new taxes meant coffee, tea and even condoms all cost more.

In downtown Athens, people queued up in an orderly fashion as the banks unlocked their doors at 8 a.m., taking a number and reading the paper as they waited for their turn at the till.

Many restrictions on transactions, including cash withdrawals, remained, however.

The Greek government kept the daily cash withdrawal limit at 60 euros (\$65) but added a weekly limit of 420 euros (\$455) that will be available beginning Sunday. This means depositors who don't make it to the bank on Monday to withdraw cash could pull out 120 euros (\$130) on Tuesday instead, and so on, so Greeks don't have to feel they need to visit an ATM every day.

Bank customers will still not be able to cash checks, only deposit them into their accounts, and they will not be able to get cash abroad with their credit or cash cards, only make purchases. There are also restrictions on opening new accounts or activating dormant ones. Many goods and services also just became more expensive as a result of a rise in Value Added Tax approved by Parliament on Thursday, among the first batch of austerity measures demanded by Greece's creditors. Lawmakers also agreed to deep reforms in Greece's pension system including a gradual phasing out of all early retirement options.



The VAT rose from 13% to 23%, making some meats, cooking oils other than olive oil, cocoa, vinegar, salt, flowers, firewood, fertilizer, insecticides, sanitary towels and other basics all more expensive.

Services hit by the new VAT increases include restaurants and cafes, funeral parlors, taxis, cramming and tutorial schools — very popular with Greek students seeking to make up for the deficiencies of the school system — language institutes and computer learning centers. Public transport fares are expected to rise early next month.

On the bright side, the government pushed back the deadline for filing income taxes by a month to August 26.

Over the weekend, Greece's coalition government swore in its new, reshuffled cabinet, replacing five prominent dissidents from the radical left Syriza party,

the senior coalition party. Four of them had voted against the agreement with Greece's creditors and the fifth had resigned before the vote.

The most urgent business for the reshuffled government is to pass another batch of austerity measures by Wednesday or early Thursday.

Greece closed its banks beginning June 29 to prevent a bank run as its second international bailout expired. After the Greek Parliament passed an agreement Thursday to seek a third bailout, the European Central Bank raised its emergency funding to the cash-strapped Greek banks.

Since Greece has a big loan payment due Monday to the ECB, plus arrears owed to the International Monetary Fund, the European Union decided Friday to release a short-term loan of 7.16 billion euros (\$7.75 billion) to help Greece make those payments.

DOZENS DEAD AFTER **TERROR ATTACK** IN TURKISH BORDER CITY

An apparent suicide bombing ripped through a rally Monday in the Turkish border town of Suruc, leaving at least 28 people dead and wounding 100 others, provincial Gov. Izzettin Kucuk told

Turkish media
The explosion occurred at mid-day at the Amara Cultural

Park in Suruc, where a group had gathered calling for more help to rebuild the Syrian Kurdish city of Kobani.

Suruc is about 6 miles from the border and Kobani, the Syrian city that was the scene of intense fighting between Syrian rebels and Kurdish forces and ISIS.

Photos and video taken from the scene show bodies strewn around a park and dazed peo-

ple at the blast site while emergency teams rush to aid victims.

"Kids were screaming, everyone was screaming and running," eyewitness Erhan Subasi said. "Everyone was in a panic but trying to help."

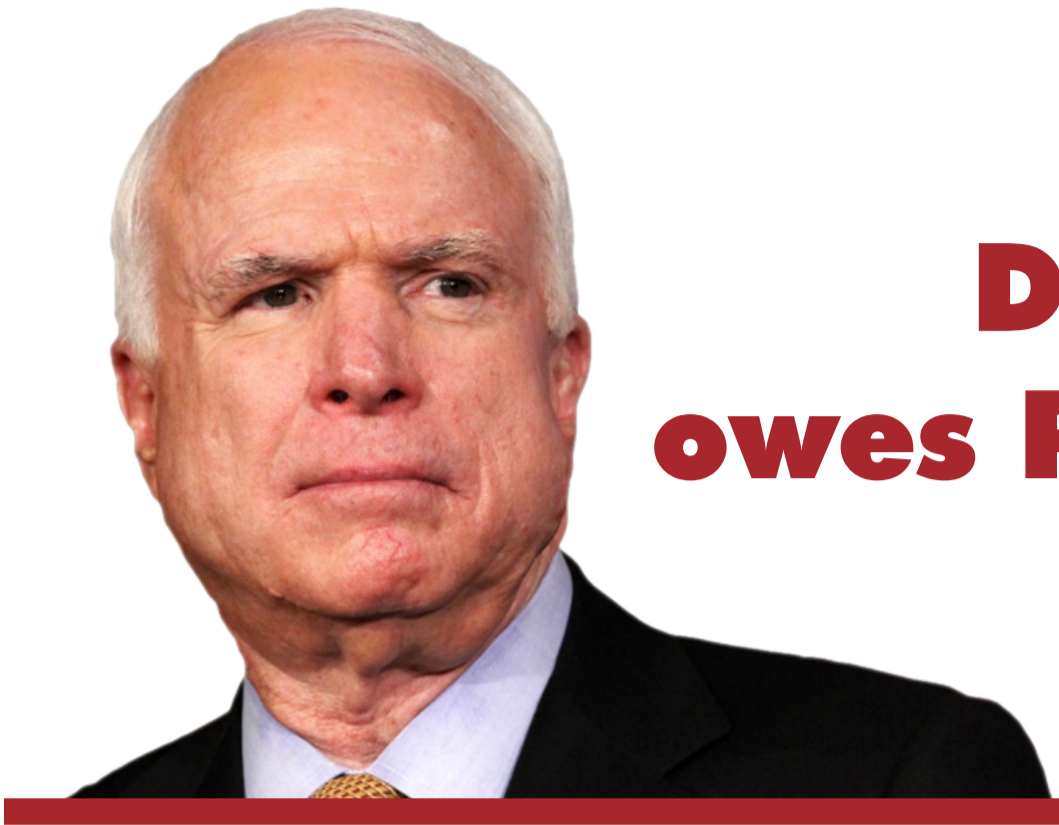
There was no immediate claim of responsibility. A Turkish official speaking on the condition of anonymity said the government thinks the attack is "retaliation to the Turkish government's fight against terrorism."

The official called for the international anti-ISIS coalition to "more actively pursue a solution to the crisis in Syria."

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan condemned the attack.

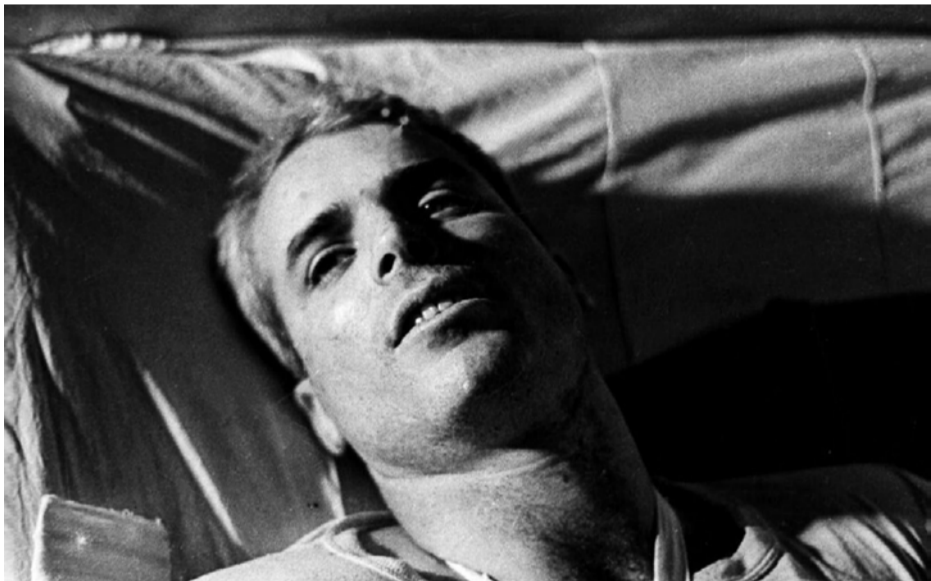
"Terror doesn't have a nation, race or homeland. That is why we have been consistent in underlining the need for a global effort to fight terror," he said. Deputy Prime Minister Yalçın Akdoğan also condemned the attack "and its inhuman perpetrators," according to a government media office.





JOHN MCCAIN: Donald Trump owes POW families an apology

IN his first response directly addressing Donald Trump's comments on his war record, Sen. John McCain said Monday that the real estate mogul should not apologize to him, but should instead apologize to the veterans captured in war and their families.



When asked Monday if he wanted an apology from Trump, McCain, whose supporters have been blasting Trump all weekend, said he doesn't need one. "I don't think so, but I think he may owe an apology to the families of those who have sacrificed in conflict and those who have undergone the prison experience in serving our country," McCain told MSNBC's "Morning Joe". "I'm in the arena, as (Teddy Roosevelt) used to say," McCain said, skipping an opportunity to knock Trump further as his allies and other presidential contenders from Trump's own party have been outspoken in denouncing his remarks. Trump disparaged McCain and other prisoners of war Saturday, in a rapid back-and-forth with Republican pollster Frank Luntz. Trump opened by criticizing McCain for calling attendees at his Phoenix rally "crazies" and defended his tweet calling McCain a "dummy". He then joked that he didn't like McCain because he lost to President Barack Obama in 2008. To which Luntz quickly said "He's a war hero." Trump first said "He's not a war hero", Luntz said "He's a war hero" and then Trump corrected himself "He is a war hero because he was captured. I like people that weren't captured, ok? I hate to tell you."

Matt Lauer, host of NBC's "Today Show" pressed Trump on his comments Monday morning, during a terse on-air exchange. Lauer asked Trump to apologize, but Trump insisted he had nothing to apologize for.

"I said very clearly he is a war hero, I have absolutely no problem with that," Trump said.

McCain spent 5 1/2 years as a prisoner of war in the "Hanoi Hilton" where he was tortured repeatedly. Trump, meanwhile, received four student deferments and one medical deferment to avoid serving in the Vietnam War.

Asked if he was angry that someone who had avoided that draft was knocking him, McCain said he preferred to move past the issue.

"I put that all behind me," McCain said. "I put all that behind me. For me to get back in anger at anyone is non-productive. Our country was divided in an almost unprecedented fashion during the Vietnam War. And when I came home I was shocked. So I have worked ever since to try and heal those wounds."

Since his comments, Trump has struggled to find his footing, accusing the media of distorting his comments and digging in even further.

"The reality is that John McCain the politician has made America less safe, sent our brave soldiers into wrong-headed foreign adventures, covered up for President Obama with the VA scandal and has spent most of his time in the Senate pushing amnesty. He would rather protect the Iraqi border than Arizona's," Trump wrote, in his latest knock on the Republican Party's 2008 nominee.

Trump's Republican opponents, meanwhile,

have pounced. A long list of contenders, from former

Florida Gov. Jeb Bush to

Wisconsin Gov. Scott

Walker, have called

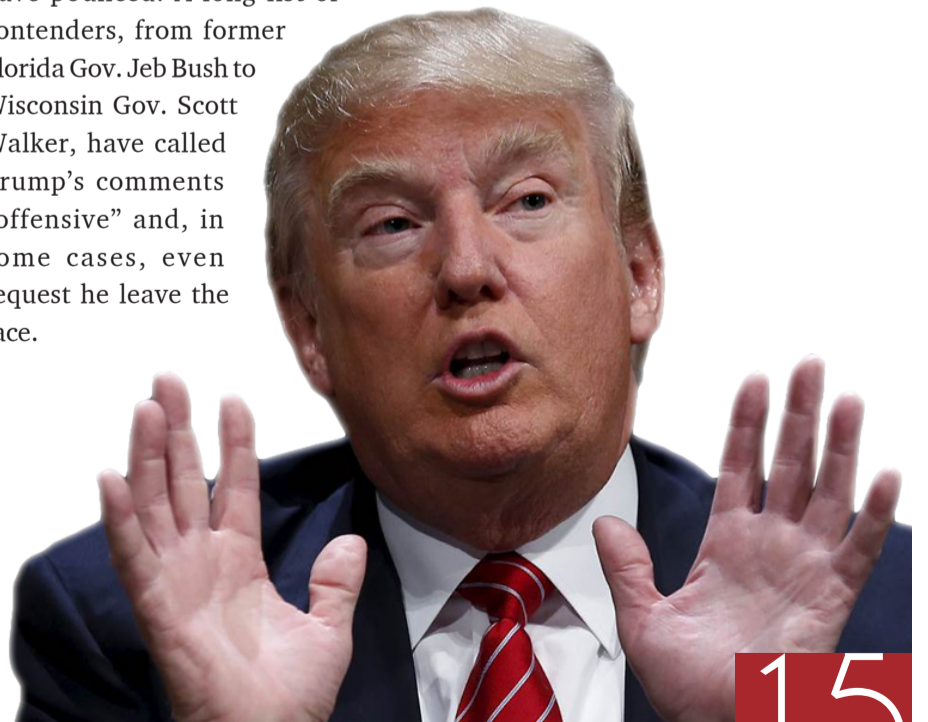
Trump's comments

"offensive" and, in

some cases, even

request he leave the

race.



SURFER FIGHTS OFF SHARK ATTACK ON LIVE TV IN SOUTH AFRICA



THE near-miraculous escape of champion surfer Mick Fanning, who found himself under attack by a shark on Sunday off the coast of South Africa, has been seen by people around the world.

The confrontation took place on live TV, and video showing the dark fin approaching Fanning from behind may have gone viral.

Fanning, who is 34, is a professional surfer from Australia who has won the Association of Surfing Professionals World Tour three times. He was competing Sunday in the J-Bay Open, the sixth stop on the 2015 World Surf League Championship Tour, in Jeffrey's Bay on South Africa's Eastern Cape.

He appeared to be chest-deep in water when a dark fin sliced through the water in his direction. Only he didn't see it because his back was turned.

"All of a sudden, I sort of sensed something behind me," he said Monday. "And then all of a sudden I just jumped on my board and I was, OK, something's going on."



'IT STARTED DRAGGING ME UNDER'

The shark latched on to his leash, which connects the surfboard to the surfer's ankle to prevent the board from getting washed away.

"I felt myself getting dragged under by my leash," Fanning said. "And the next thing I know, I saw his fin and went on my board."

He said he thinks the shark smacked him in the head, although he doesn't remember. Then the shark swam back around for another go.

"I went again on my board, and it was like me or the shark," he said.

"I think I tried to punch it," he said. "And then it started dragging me under, dragging me by my leash. I was like, I don't know what to do," he said.

But then the leash snapped and Fanning began swimming furiously toward land, screaming at fellow surfer Julian Wilson to head for shore, as well.

But Wilson had other ideas.

"As a warrior, as a legend, he just came for me," Fanning said.

Quickly, before Wilson could get there, the water crew arrived on personal watercraft. Fanning clambered into a raft. His head sank to the floor of the raft for a moment as the reality of what had happened began to dawn on him.

But he didn't feel it fully until he reached the shore.

'CRIED A LITTLE BIT'

"It didn't really kick in until I got back here and saw how emotional everyone was," he said. "Even now, I feel the emotion welling up."

And he talked to his mother, who had watched as the attack unfolded on live television. She told him she had wanted to rip him right out of the TV screen. Then came the day after.

"I woke up this morning and spoke to more family and friends, cried a little bit," he said. "You never know, you're just lucky. You just thank whatever gods are out there or whatever; you just say thanks. Thanks for looking out for me."

Asked whether he would go surfing again, he recalled that some surfers had actually been bitten and continued with the sport.

Surfing, he said, gives him a sense of balance. Even if he were not a professional, he said, he would always do it. "I still will. Just might be a little more cautious," he said.

"I'll be back out there, yeah."



MITSUBISHI APOLOGIZES FOR USING U.S. PRISONERS AS SLAVES DURING WORLD WAR II



It is the first private Japanese firm to make amends for wartime abuses

EXECUTIVES of the Japanese firm Mitsubishi Materials issued a formal apology on Sunday to the American soldiers who were forced to work in the company's mines while prisoners during World War II.

"Working conditions were extremely harsh and the POWs were subjected to severe hardship," senior executive Hikaru Kimura said, speaking at a ceremony at Los Angeles' Museum of Tolerance.

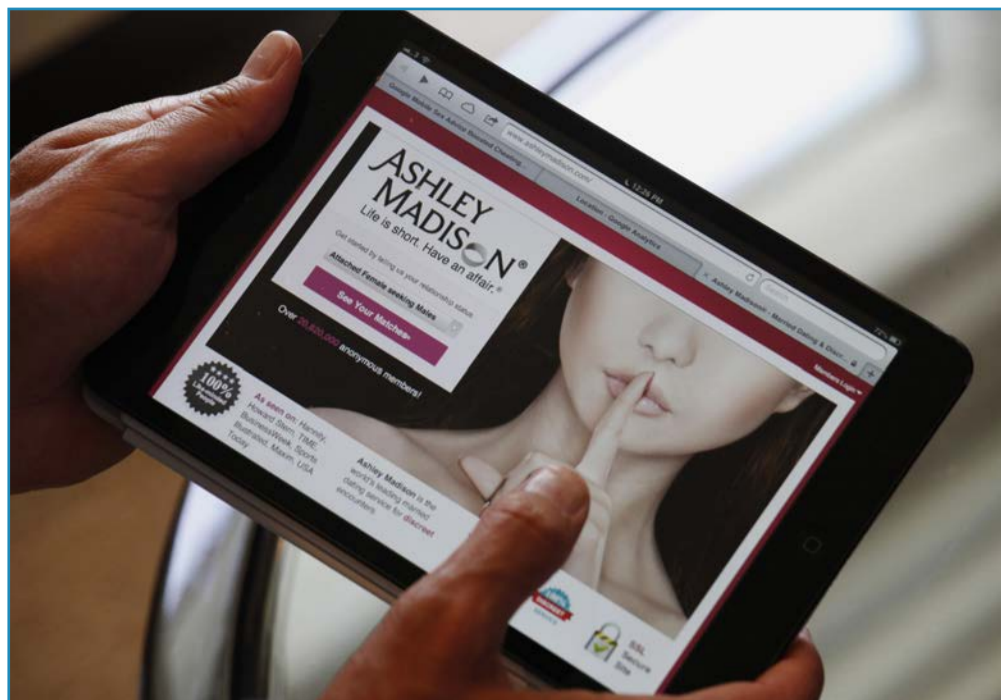
"As the company that succeeded Mitsubishi Mining, we cannot help feeling a deep sense of ethical responsibility for this past tragedy."

James Murphy, a 94-year-old veteran who stands among the few prisoners of war still living, openly expressed his appreciation after meeting with company representatives.

"For 70 years since the war ended, the prisoners of war who worked for these Japanese companies have asked for something very simple, they asked for an apology," he said.

Murphy was one of the nearly 900 American soldiers imprisoned during the war at camps linked to Mitsubishi's copper mines. The conditions were "slavery in every way."

Mitsubishi's apology comes three and a half weeks shy of the 70th anniversary of Japan's surrender, which confirmed the Allies' victory in the war. In the years since, the Japanese government has mostly been diligent about making amends for its actions during and prior to the conflict, though this is the first time a private firm involved in the war effort has made a public apology.



Cheating website Ashley Madison hacked and perpetrators threatening to expose data of users

ATTACKERS breached adult affair website Ashley Madison

Hackers of unknown origin have begun leaking large chunks of user data from the website of Ashley Madison — a social-networking site promising "discreet encounters" for married people and which operates under the rubric "Life is short. Have an affair."

KrebsOnSecurity, the Internet security blog run by former Washington Post cybercrime reporter Brian Krebs, says the hackers, calling themselves the Impact Team, are demanding that Avid Life Media (ALM), a Canadian company that owns Ashley Madison as well as Established Men (which promises to set successful men up with "young, beautiful women") to take the two sites down permanently.

If ALM doesn't comply, the hackers say they will continue releasing "all customer records, including profiles with all the customers' secret sexual fantasies and matching credit card transactions, real names and addresses, and employee documents and emails," Krebs reports.

Ashley Madison gives users the option to delete their user data for the price of \$19, but the hackers claim the feature is flawed and doesn't actually successfully wipe customers' information.

They also say Ashley Madison's customers are "cheating dirt bags" who do not deserve discretion, Krebs writes. "With over 37 million members, mostly from the U.S. and Canada, a significant percentage of the population is about to have a very bad day, including many rich and powerful people," the hackers reportedly stated.

ALM says it is trying to contain the huge leak and has condemned the hackers' actions. "We're not denying this happened," ALM CEO Noel Biderman told Krebs. "Like us or not, this is still a criminal act."



Cody Walker, Paul's brother, lands **first major role**

THE 27-year-old actor, who served as a stand-in for his late brother Paul Walker in "Furious 7," will be co-starring in the new Nicolas Cage movie, "USS Indianapolis: Men of Courage." It's Cody Walker's first major role. In "Furious 7," he was used as Paul's body double when the film resumed shooting after Paul Walker's untimely death in a car crash.

"USS Indianapolis" concerns the World War II ship that was torpedoed in the summer of 1945. About 300 men -- of about 1,200 crewmen -- died in the attack, and another 600 perished after the ship went down. Just 317 survived.

The real life event is the subject of a famous speech in the movie "Jaws," whose Capt. Quint is supposed to be a survivor.

Cody Walker plays a crewman. Cage plays the ship's captain, Charles Butler McVay. The new film will be directed by Mario Van Peebles.





HEALTH:

Alzheimer's May Show Up in Saliva

Identifying Alzheimer's well before symptoms appear may become easier with a saliva test

THE latest advances in Alzheimer's disease involve people who don't appear to show any signs of cognitive decline yet. Experts now believe that the biological processes behind the neurodegenerative condition begin years, if not decades, before memory problems and confusion become noticeable.

At the annual Alzheimer's Association International Conference, researchers say they have found a series of substances in saliva that can distinguish between people who experience normal aging, those with mild cognitive dementia (MCI, which in some cases can lead to Alzheimer's and in other cases not), and Alzheimer's disease.

Presenting at the meeting, Shraddha Sapkota, a graduate student in neuroscience at University of Alberta, and her colleagues described how they carefully analyzed the saliva of a group of volunteers participating in an aging study.

Some had been diagnosed with Alzheimer's and some with MCI, while others did not have any neurological conditions. By comparing their saliva components, the scientists found that each of the three groups showed slightly different patterns of compounds, which could form the basis of a relatively easy and non-invasive way to determine which people are at higher risk of developing more serious degenerative brain conditions.

The results aren't conclusive enough yet for doctors to start using them to distinguish people who are more likely to develop Alzheimer's, but that's the goal, says Sapkota.

Ideally, for example, isolating those with MCI might help doctors to focus in on a group of patients who might be at higher risk of developing Alzheimer's and therefore might need more intensive and regular testing.



JORDAN HENDERSON 'WILL THRIVE' AS CAPTAIN, SAYS BRENDAN RODGERS



BRENDAN Rodgers has backed Jordan Henderson to have an “outstanding year” as Liverpool captain.

Henderson has been handed the captain’s armband and has also inherited a key midfield role following Steven Gerrard’s departure for LA Galaxy.

However, Rodgers believes the England international will thrive with the additional responsibility of leading the Reds and will prove to be a worthy successor to Anfield legend Gerrard.

“When I was aware that Stevie was going I wanted to look at somebody who would be a great ambassador for Liverpool on and off the pitch,” Rodgers said on LFCTV.

“You have a huge responsibility on a worldwide basis.

“Jordan was one I thought about and once I saw him grow and develop as vice-captain, I felt sure he could be a captain.

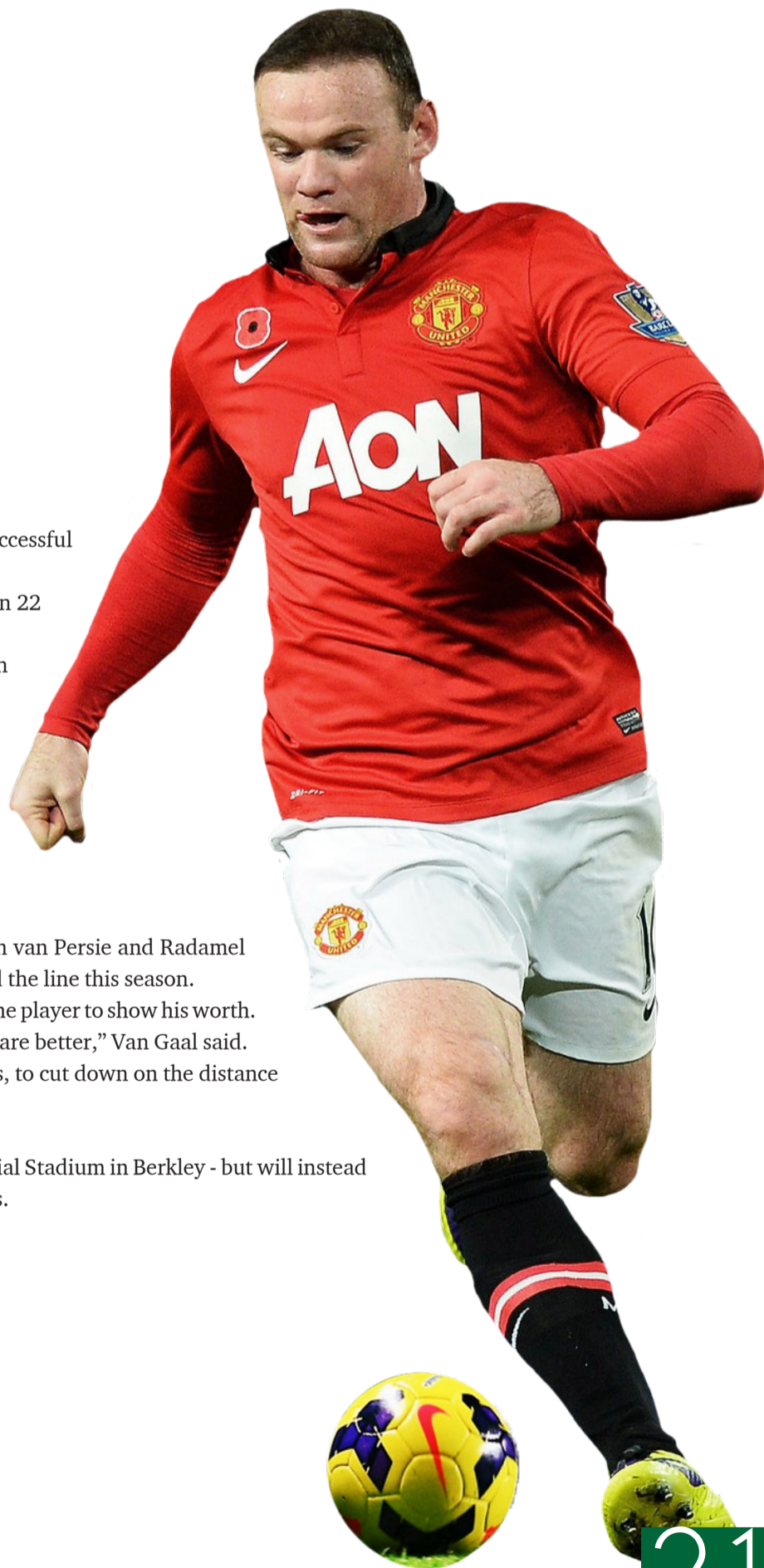
“I told him to do it his way and have his own ideas and I think he’ll have an outstanding year and really blossom with the captaincy.”

Currently on tour in Australia, where they beat Adelaide United 2-0 on Monday, Liverpool begins their Premier League campaign at Stoke City on August 9.

They then face Arsenal, Manchester United, neighbors Everton, Chelsea and Manchester City in their next five away games.



Dutch native Memphis Depay sure of Man Utd success with Wayne Rooney



MANCHESTER United winger Memphis Depay is confident he can forge a successful partnership with skipper Wayne Rooney this season.

Depay has arrived at Old Trafford determined to replicate the form that resulted in 22 goals for PSV Eindhoven last season, and earn a £25m move to United.

The 21-year-old impressed during his new team's 1-0 victory over Club America in Seattle on Saturday. And the Dutchman was full of praise for Rooney after the match at CenturyLink Field.

"Wayne coached me a lot through the game and talked to me about which position I should take and when to defend," Depay said.

"We have to form a duo and I have the right feeling with him. It's an honour to play with such a legend like Wazza."

While United are currently bereft of options in attack after the departure of Robin van Persie and Radamel Falcao, manager Louis van Gaal may give Javier Hernandez an opportunity to lead the line this season.

Hernandez spent last season on loan at Real Madrid, and Van Gaal has challenged the player to show his worth.

"He can prove himself again and now Falcao and Van Persie are gone, his chances are better," Van Gaal said.

United have switched the venue for their next game, against San Jose Earthquakes, to cut down on the distance the players will have to travel while on tour.

Van Gaal's side was due to play Tuesday's match at the 60,000 capacity Cal Memorial Stadium in Berkeley - but will instead take on San Jose at the nearby Avaya Stadium - which holds just 16,000 spectators.

F1: Jules Bianchi's funeral will be held in Nice, French Riviera today

25-year-old will be laid to rest at the Sainte Reparate Cathedral

French motor racing driver Jules Bianchi's funeral will be held in his home city of Nice today. The 25-year-old driver died on Friday night following the injuries he sustained in a crash at the Japanese Grand Prix on October 5.

Bianchi will be laid to rest at the Sainte Reparate Cathedral in Nice. A message posted from the Frenchman's Twitter account read: "You can say goodbye to Jules Tuesday 21 July at 10 am at the Sainte Reparate Cathedral @Villedenice #CiaoJules."

Bianchi had been in a coma since suffering severe head injuries when his car struck a recovery vehicle at the Suzuka circuit in October.

He is the first F1 driver to die as a result of injuries sustained at a grand prix weekend since Ayrton Senna.

The three-time world champion was killed at the San Marino Grand Prix on May 1, 1994.

Bianchi competed in 34 races for Manor-Marussia after making his debut for the British-based team at the season-opening Australian Grand Prix in 2013.

"In my opinion, he could have been a future world champion," Manor sporting director Graeme Lowdon said. He added: "You could tell that from the moment he walked into our garage.

"The best drivers just have something about their job and he was very impressive in everything he did.

"He was a tremendous young man, an extremely impressive racing driver, but more than that he was an exceptional human being as well and very warm and compassionate and that was felt by everyone he met."

